

THE COMPUTER

UFO NEWSLETTER

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THE COMPUTER UFO NEWSLETTER

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"The Computer UFO Newsletter" is an aperiodical independent newsletter published from four to six times per year, entirely devoted to presentation of works and discussions about the use of computer in ufology.

Contributions are open to all researchers with personal experience in the field.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily shared by the Editor.

The newsletter is available in computerized version on floppy disk / cassette for Commodore-64 microcomputer.

CUFON can be received by exchange with other UFO magazines or supplying a fee of 12,000 Italian lire (6.5 US\$) or more (for six issues) to the Editor.

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EDITORIAL

I prepared this first issue without being able to judge the value of my enterprise, as I don't know the (eventual) whole interest arisen by CUFON yet.

As written in the experimental issue, the existence of such a newsletter dealing with a "new" subject for ufology depends exclusively on the contribution (articles and money) supplied by those who are reading this editorial. Don't forget CUFON is a publication of you, a means for discussing ideas and informations about computer and the UFO research (here meant in its wider sense).

Besides publishing results of available works (a catalogue print-out, for example) or proposals of new projects, we think a preliminary discussion about the eventual applications of a computer in our field is fairly important. It would be opportune to make a selection among all possible employments in order to draw the most important work to carry out at both personal and research level. The readers' proposals, when followed with an in-depth debate about usefulness of such works and hardware/software to employ, will be presented in a special section of the newsletter.

I myself open this series of proposals, presenting briefly some of them in this editorial.

(I)

A file of available books and magazines.

It is a valid tool to know exactly quantity and quality of sources at own disposal. It's a simple personal use of computer. Linking many of these files, it would be possible to establish a comprehensive reference UFO library : any people would be able to ask for specific books or magazines at the right person.

A work of such a kind has been started by US researcher David Christensen with his own "Computer Catalog of UFO Resources".

(II)

A file divided in different subjects or several specific files (equally structured) about articles published in the available UFO literature (books, magazines, photocopies of articles, unpublished papers, etc.....). Own bibliography can be known in details and continuously up-to-dated without any problem : it's clear how this function is useful when researchers write a paper or wish to deal with special topics.

The exchange of these files (as well as those reported at the head -I-) among people would be interesting in order to know the documentation each ufologist has. A work of such a kind, but limited only to books, has been started in 1984 by M.Bottaini in

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Italy. A few hundreds of books and other publications belonging to about ten Italian researchers were stored on a Apple IIc. A similar application on magazines is scheduled in the near future.

(2)

A mail list of magazines and researchers' addresses : it's the simplest use of computer !

(3)

Using a suitable program (like the excellent "Skytravel" for Commodore 64 or that recently developed by D.Mavrakis on a Superbrain QD) would be possible to survey the ephemerides in search for eventual astronomical explanations of presumed UFO sightings. Similarly, there are some programs (surely a couple for Apple II. Do you know anyone having them ?) about most satellite paths, but requiring a continuous revision. I think this is one of the most important useful applications of computer to ufology : it is a valid tool to select strictly our casuistries, where it is possible. My own experience with the mentioned ephemerides program for C-64 has been remarkable in relation to ITACAT. I have been able to identify or to give possible/probable astronomical explanations for a lot of cases. Using a powerful PC and some special programs, it would be possible to simulate :

[A] the flight path of an object on the ground of witnesses' claims (this opportunity would be very useful in those cases probably produced by meteors or satellite re-entries, when hundreds of observers are scattered in a large area) : it could be an excellent tool for verifying possible explanations.

[B] the forces being necessary to produce traces found on a landing site, on the ground of a series of parameters (depth, width, length, kind of soil and its penetration coefficient, etc.....).

Hypothetically one could reconstruct ideal size and shape of what produced traces, but we think results would be not much pleasant for those who wish to see a fine flying saucer displayed on the monitor. However, it could be an effiacacious means of ascertaining whether the cause was an artificial "object" or, on the contrary, a casual conventional phenomenon.

We have not to deceive ourselves about such possible applications : they need a remarkable experience in software, a suitable hardware and several time at own disposal.

(2)

By a (common to all compatible computers, if possible) database, one is able to establish a file of UFO sightings. The storage of a national casuistry in a computer is a very difficult task, due to the extent of available material. A possible solution would be to organize a "network" of researchers having the same kind of machine and owning the UFO casuistry of their zone. A similar project has been started in Italy in 1984 (see CUFON experimental issue), but up to now only 8/9 province out of 91 have been covered.

The problem is lightly easier when handling with specific samples of cases, selected on special characteristics (traces, entities, physiological effects, all close encounters, sure IFOs, etc....). A single researcher is able to digit such a casuistry into a home/personal computer in a relatively brief time.

Databases can be structured in two chief ways (beyond limitations associated with the employed kind of machine) :

[a] as a "simple" reference work giving few basic data (like my ITACAT)

[b] as a real source of the descriptive information about the case : obviously, there are many parameters and a suitable codification.

According to my own point of view the first solution is the better one, to avoid useless losses of time (and money !). It is an important matter I would like to discuss in a next editorial or article.

(3)

The use of statistic programs can be interesting to show the trends of some parameters connected to UFO sightings. The temporal and geographical distributions are certainly the most popular statistical applications in ufology. Computer allows to carry out quite sophisticated analyses in a brief time : but the chief problem is the usual quality and reliability of cases. I think the best solution is to consider only small selected samples of excellent cases, subjecting them to an in-depth survey. Results could be displayed directly on screen, under the form of graphics. Such an application - especially when regarding parameters other than time and space - have to be linked with an eventual "codification" of cases.

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Well, the foregoing is only an attempt to stimulate discussions and projects about the alleged topics. But don't forget it is absolutely necessary to reach a common set of standards (for example about the structure of the database and its records, when establishing a computerized catalogue of sightings) before starting to develop new works. The present "anarchy" is wholly useless and one of the aims of CUFON is just to eliminate it.

Request for fee

In spite of this issue has been sent free of charge, we are asking for a financial support to "The Computer UFO Newsletter". The edition of CUFON is quite simple (an original draft by a word-processor and a printer, then reproduced by photocopies), but its costs are high and we aren't able to afford further issues to anyone.

We hope you'll comprehend our situation.

An early disappearance of the newsletter would be a real pity, now that computer is more and more important in any activity (serious ufology included).

So we are proposing a request for a small fee to cover the shipment of six issues of CUFON. The amount is ~~free~~, but we have to fix a ~~minimum~~ limit of 12,000 Italian lire (6.5 US\$) by surface mail and 17,500 (9.5 US\$) by air mail : certainly a higher fee will be welcome ! Remittance should be made by an International Postal Money Order payable to "Maurizio Verga".

Otherwise to the real newsletter printed on paper, we propose to supply directly the "Easy Script" files. If you are interested send six 5.25 inches floppy disks or cassettes plus a ~~minimum~~ fee of 10,000 Italian lire (5.5 US\$). You will receive the newsletter on the disk/cassette, included - if you wish - its own paper cover.

- NEWS -

We have a software list of more than 1200 titles for Commodore 64 and we agree to any exchange. We are looking for software for the new Commodore 128.

Write to CUFON address.

SUGGESTIONS FOR A METHODOLOGY IN COMPUTERIZATION OF CASES AND REPORTS

by Piergiovanni D'Orazio and
Gianfranco Lollino

It is our intention to illustrate in this writing a methodology for data coding of cases and reports and their computerization carried out by the C.U.N. of Rimini in conjunction with Dr. Pinotti and Dr. Malanga from Florence (1).

The most adopted method to store UFO data is at present that of a mere list of reports, such as INTCAT created by Peter Rogerson (2). Another interesting suggestion for cataloging cases comes from John Hind (3). In one of his articles he proposed a method of classification conceived by Smith Thompson based on 'motifs', i.e. the essential elements of a case, synthetically expressed by a series of short sentences containing a single idea or 'motif'.

We have considered the most significant elements of the two cataloging criteria, trying to create a 'hybrid' classification. Whereas we were coping with representing a 'finite' number of possible interpretations such as, for instance, the list of all the available material about a case, we decided to enumerate them in a schedule with progressive numbers and then use those numbers as codes, to save space when computerized.

The major difficulty that most of researchers all over the world have met has been that they found it almost impossible to express the exact meaning of the witness's words by codes. It was impossible, for instance, to list in just a schedule all the possible kinds of noise or sound heard by the witness and then code them as strings of data in a computer. In this case we preferred to express, as for the above-mentioned example, what the witness heard with his same words used as coded data.

Obviously, if we had to computerize 'absolute' information such as witness's name, date, time and so forth, we did it using such words as strings.

Data coded as strings are equally useful if we operated statistically, for by means of proper comparisons between strings or abstractions of substrings we could make valuable selections of data as if we were dealing with numerical codes.

The only data which were not fit for being coded in this manner were those concerning the UFO shapes, for words used as data were insufficient to represent graphic shapes. Therefore, in addition to the witness's

words we chose to adopt the 'UFO appearance recognition and identification test procedure', to name the words of its author, Prof. Richard Haines. It is a schedule which comprises all the most elementary top, mid and bottom sections of the UFO shapes, capable of composing even the most complex figures. They are identified by a code.

The cataloging method we suggest is composed of two separate files: THE FILE OF CASES AND THE FILE OF REPORTS. They are of the kind 'indexed sequential', thereby combining the simplicity of sequential files with the relatively fast access to data provided by indexation.

We will present now the list of data as coded information composing each case. The one or more reports referring to a single case are listed separately in the file of reports .

To make things clearer we have put a 'C' standing for 'coded' data and the schedule comprising all the possible options with their corresponding codes. Instead, we have put an 'S' standing for 'string', where the witness's words are used as coded information.

~~RESEARCH~~

- 1 - NAME (in the form: Surname and Name) - S
- 2 - PLACE (in the form: Locality, City, Nation) - S
- 3 - DATE (in the form: MM/DD/SS) - S
- 4 - TIME (in the form: HH/MM/SS) - S
- 5 - CLASSIFICATION (the 'modified' Hynek-Randles Classification has been chosen, coded as follows:
 - 1.NL (Nocturnal Lights)
 - 2.DD (Daylight Discs)
 - 3.RV (Radar-Visual)
 - 4.CE-0 (Close Encounters with no effect or entity)
 - 5.CE-1 (Close Encounters with temporary effects, perceived by witness only)
 - 6.CE-2 (Close Encounters with durable effects, observed even by third persons)
 - 7.CE-3 (presence of animated entities)
 - 8.CE-4 (contact, abduction, space and time anomalies) - C
- 6 - PHYSICAL EVIDENCE (coded as follows:
 - 1.Effects on things
 - 2.Effects on men
 - 3.Effects on animals
 - 4.Effects on vegetation
 - 5.Traces - C
- 7 - STRANGENESS-PROBABILITY RATING (1 to 10) - S
- 8 - IFO CLASSIFICATION (identified by the investigating individual or group with POSS=possible and PROB=probable according to the following schedule:
 - 1.AST (planets and stars)
 - 2.MET (Meteors)
 - 3.ACR (aircraft)
 - 4.SAT (satellites)

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- 5.BAL (balloons)
- 6.ATM (atmospheric phenomena)
- 7.BLI (ball lightnings, plasma, ionized gases)
- 8.SWG (swamp gases, St. Elmo's fires)
- 9.PHO (physical objects, as Kites or flares)
- 10.LCL (lenticular clouds)
- 11.AUB (aurora borealis)
- 12.BII (birds or insects)
- 13.OPI (optical illusions)
- 14.HAL (hallucinations)
- 15.MYS (mystifications) - C

9 - SOURCE (individual, group or mass media from which we were informed of the case for the first time. The major daily newspapers and magazines could be listed in a schedule and coded) - S

10 - INVESTIGATOR (individual or group who investigated the case) - S

11 - DIRECT REPORT (code number of each report referred to a case, investigated directly by the individual or group) - S

12 - INDIRECT REPORT (code number of each report investigated by other individuals or groups) - S

13 - AVAILABLE MATERIAL (number and kind of available material. It is listed in a schedule as follows:

-1.Signed declarations or reports (by the witness)

-2.Reports and inquiries (by the investigator)

3-.Newspaper articles

-4.Issues

-5.Photographs or films

-6.Samples or physical residuals

-7.Moulds (of tracks)

-8.Tapes

-9.Original sketches and drawings (by the witness) - C

14 - MOTIVATIONAL REPORT (short sentences containing the 'descriptive' and 'action' motifs of the case) - S

(To be continued)

NOTES by the EDITOR :

(1) This proposal of codification has been not developed inside C.U.N. up to now.

(2) INTCAT has been published in several parts on the former MUFOB and then on MAGONIA. A whole manuscript is now ready, but still unpublished.

(3) J.Hind (1979) "Using UFO motifs", MAGONIA 2, 3-8

The second part of D'Orazio and Lollino's paper will be published in the next issue.

A COMPUTERIZED CATALOGUE OF ITALIAN CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

by Maurizio Verga

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ -

ITACAT is the Italian Catalogue of Type-1 events and it has been carried out under the form of a wide manuscript (partially written by the "Easy Script" word-processor).

It is a fairly long work, not restricted to the "simple" compilation of a catalogue of abstracts. It has been directed also to the critical evaluation of cases, to frame characteristics and quality of each of them in a better way.

By a series of "comment notes", gathered in a special section, I have tried to supply some additional information that show the multiform problems and aspects of investigation about the so-called "research" and UFO myth.

Certainly one is in presence of statements, ideas and opinions fundamentally personal : but notwithstanding its undeniable limitations, such a kind of approach (only generalized here) is necessary for dealing with the UFO question. In fact, clearness and seriousness is indispensable with a matter as that about witness experiences associated to UFO phenomena, where there are a lot of emotional and irrational elements.

A procedure of such a kind don't supply encouraging results, certainly. The image coming out from Italian Type-1 events is very bad : it uncovers the limitations of the material on which the UFO research system is based at present. Out of a 428 events sample, the sufficiently reliable reports can be numbered on two hands' fingers with difficulty : again, those evaluated as "apparently unexplainable" are 4 (0,93 %) !

Here is the basic structure of the ITACAT manuscript :

(1) a detailed introduction to the employed principles and "methodologies". There are also two large specific bibliographies :

- (A) works developed by this author about ITACAT or parts of it.
- (B) foreign catalogues and studies carried out on national or international landing cases.

(2) the real catalogue, composed by the abstracts and by the fundamental entries' sources.

ITACAT

(3) the "comment notes" referring to each single case, where there are further information, comments, personal evaluations, other Italian sources and the foreign ones.

(4) an appendix devoted to drawings and sketches about the phenomena perceived by witnesses.

Please note that the catalogue don't collect all close encounters indistinctly. I have carried out a preliminary selection in order to exclude some groups of special cases [the several doubts about their reliability are the chief reasons of such a choice] or events far from the Type-1 definition. I remember the latter here :

"....any UFO sightings where witness reports the alleged phenomenon at a maximum height of about 30 metres/100 feet."

But such a definition would need several modifications.....

In particular, the kinds of UFO tales not reported in the catalogue are :

(A) contactee cases (multiple physical contacts with messages and eventual exploitation of the tales)

(B) photo cases

(C) cases relating sightings of strange "beings" not directly associated to a UFO phenomenon (type D-H of HUMCAT classification)

(D) cases relating discoveries of traces or other physical evidences not linked to UFO sightings

~~SECRET~~ -

Parallely to ITACAT, I have developed other two works about similar kinds of cases. Besides writing the alleged manuscripts, I prepared their computerized versions too. So the whole work includes three different catalogues :

(1) ITACAT : Italian catalogue of (all) Type-1 events, about 430 entries.

(2) ITACAT N : Italian catalogue of "negative" (IFO) Type-1 events, about 100 cases.

(3) TRACAT : Italian catalogue of trace cases, about 170 entries.

They take a little more than one and a half 5.25 inches floppy disk, that is the equivalent of about 190/200 Kbytes RAM : programs are available also on a normal tape.

All versions are composed by three or four programs (plus the alleged file) structured in a similar fashion. There is a first group of

ITACAT

several different screens where there are details about the work and the specific kind of casuistry taken into consideration. After reading a screen, the user can go to the following one simply pressing a key : at the end, a series of graphic screens - with indications about title and authors - are stored into computer's memory. Then there is the real database, through which is to be loaded the alleged file (more than 11K long for ITACAT !).

This is the common structure of each series of programs, but there is a preliminary piece too. It is a fairly "humouristic" program, where there is also a map of Italy with an Adamsky-like flying saucer jumping on the chief Italian towns ! Certainly, it isn't a serious program.

Software has been developed in BASIC, so the database programs could be fairly slow during data processing, especially as regards "sort" and "order" functions. To make such a step faster, I compiled programs through the popular "PetSpeed" compiler.

All ITACAT programs have been expressed as some reference work, which sole aim was to supply the basic information for each case. Practically, they are only some "tool" to handle the alleged complex casuistries. For example, it is possible to draw a series of cases relating to a particular period of time or a special classification. Having a list of them on video or paper, one is able to check their abstracts on the ITACAT manuscripts or the other catalogues for one's own aim.

The range of potential processing options offered by the database is quite wide. It is possible to order or to sort entries in function of any parameter, printing the resulting list on paper. Entries can be corrected in any time by an opportune option, which requires the entry's reference number. There are also some utilities, including disk directory, preparation of a new disk, free memory and clock. The files generated by the databases (nearly entirely written by M.Bottaini of Pescia (Pistoia - Italy), a C.U.N. member now having a Apple IIc and able to use a IBM/34 on work) can be saved on both floppy disk and tape. In spite of the use of a disk drive, loading/saving of data is fairly slow, due to its very low baud rate (300 per second).

Here is the structure of the ITACAT record :

- #) Reference number (automatic)
- 1) Date
- 2) Location
- 3) Province
- 4) Classification
- 5) Evaluation

ITACAT N record is lightly different : there is a sixth field about explanation of the event.

To save memory (39K RAM aren't much !) and time in digitizing entries, the "classification" and "evaluation" parameters have been inserted under indirect form (but appear normally on the video), by the following 'codes' :

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ -

ITACAT

1 = CE0 # 2 = CE1 # 3 = CE2 # 4 = CE3 # 5 = CE4

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ -

A.UN. = APPARENTLY UNEXPLAINABLE.

Cases with sufficient information and quite good investigation, for which no possible cause has been advanced at moment of establishing the catalogue.

POSS. = POSSIBLE EXPLANATION.

Cases having indications for a possible explanation. Suggestion of it is made - hazardly - also for some "rumours" or very low quality events.

PROB. = PROBABLE EXPLANATION.

Cases having indications for a probable or nearly sure explanation, but for which there aren't valid information. Hazardous suggestions can be present.

HOAX = (Possible) HOAX.

Cases that must be regarded as possible hoax. In ITACAT it always refers to possible fakes : in that database program this evaluation can be displayed as "poss. hoax" or "hoax" only, due to lack of space. In ITACAT N the term always refers to sure fakes.

INS. = INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION.

Cases having too few data for being taken seriously into consideration. "Rumours" are typical of this evaluation.

UNRE. = UNRELIABLE.

Cases that are unreliable - so unusable - owing to some characteristics. For example :

- 1) enquiry carried out more than a month after the event.
- 2) sources coming from press or direct witnesses, as well as second or third-hand sources.
- 3) investigators having scarce experience or arising doubts about their works.
- 4) CE2 where traces haven't been observed by investigators too.

It is possible to combine up to three different evaluations.

People not owing a Commodore 64 and interested in receiving the print-out of ITACAT programs can write to CUFON address.

To see the structure of such a print-out, I present a brief sorted list for each catalogue.

ITACAT

ITACAT SAMPLE: 1952 ENTRIES

NO.	DATE	LOCATION	UN	CE	REMARKS
001)	28/06/52	CALUSO	TO	CE1	UNRE PROB)
002)	25/07/52	S.PIETRO A VICO	LU	CE3	UNRE POSS)
003)	02/08/52	ANCONA	AN	CE0	INS UNRE PROB)
004)	09/09/52	BRENNO	VA	CE0	INS UNRE POSS)
005)	14/10/52	SIGNA	FI	CE0	INS UNRE POSS)
006)	16/11/52	CASTELFRANCO EMILIA	MO	CE3	INS UNRE)
007)	??/??/52	FRANCAVILLA	CH	CE0	INS UNRE)

ITACAT N SAMPLE: 1977 ENTRIES

NO.	DATE	LOCATION	UN	CE	REMARKS
001)	13/02/77	SAINT VINCENT	AO	CE2	IDENTIFIED HOAX
002)	28/02/77	CASALE MONFERRATO	AL	CE3	IDENTIFIED JUPITER
003)	??/04/77	SAN MINIATO	FI	CE3	PROB. HOAX *
004)	??/05/77	MONTESPERTOLI	FI	CE3	IDENTIFIED HOAX
005)	19/07/77	ANGERA	VA	CE2	PROB. HOAX *
006)	??/07/77	PORCHILE	NU	CE0	IDENTIFIED FISH

TRACAT SAMPLE: 1977 ENTRIES

NO.	DATE	LOCATION	UN	REMARKS
001)	05/01/77	SCERNE DI PINETO	TE	DIRECT ASS. INS. UNRE. PROB.)
002)	13/02/77	SAINT VINCENT	AO	HOAXES HOAX)
003)	??/04/77	S.ANTONIO MEDICINA	BO	INDIRECT ASS IDENTIFIED)
004)	06/05/77	RAGUSA	RG	DIRECT ASS. INS. UNRE.)
005)	13/05/77	ROTTANOVA DI CAVAR.	VE	INDIRECT ASS INS. UNRE.)
006)	10/06/77	VILLA BARTOLOMEA	VR	INDIRECT ASS INS. UNRE. POSS.)
007)	??/06/77	CASTELVETRANO	TP	INDIRECT ASS INS. UNRE.)
008)	05/07/77	LA SPEZIA	SP	INDIRECT ASS IDENTIFIED)
009)	13/07/77	ROSETO DEGLI ABRUZZI	TE	INDIRECT ASS UNRE. PROB.)
010)	18/07/77	ANGERA	VA	HOAXES PROB.HOAX)
011)	23/07/77	CESANO MADERNO	MI	INDIRECT ASS INS. UNRE.)
012)	05/08/77	MONTI PARODI	SP	INDIRECT ASS UNRE. PROB.)
013)	22/08/77	PADOVA	PD	HOAXES PROB.HOAX)
014)	31/08/77	STURNO	AV	DIRECT ASS. POSS. PROB.)
015)	??/08/77	PONTEDERA	PI	DIRECT ASS. INS. UNRE.)
016)	??/09/77	BENEVENTO	BN	DIRECT ASS. INS. UNRE. PROB.)
017)	06/10/77	FIESOLE	FI	DIRECT ASS. IDENTIFIED)
018)	28/11/77	LATINA	LT	INDIRECT ASS INS. UNRE. POSS.)
019)	06/12/77	PONTECCHIO MARCONI	BO	DIRECT ASS. INS. UNRE. PROB.)
020)	11/12/77	LEGNANO	MI	DIRECT ASS. IDENTIFIED)
021)	??/??/77	ACERNO	SA	DIRECT ASS. INS. UNRE. PROB.)

OFFER OF SOFTWARE

One of the aim of CUFON is to make software of interest for ufology available to anyone. Of course we don't sell programs as the newsletter is a non-profit publication, which sole purpose is presentation and discussion of matters about the use of computer in ufology. We offert software against the payment of the floppy disc (or cassette), packing and shipping charges, Keeping the costs as low as possible. This first offer is limited, as we are at the starting point : but we think the available programs will increase more and more in the future. The "Offer of software" page will be published and up-to-dated regularly in each issue of the newsletter. We'll offer al programs related to ufology we'll receive from readers or other sources, so that interested people could see them directly on their own monitors. Programs, besides being purchased, can be exchanged with other UFO software or utilites possibly related with ufology. Please contact our address for further details (also regarding your own offers of programs).

Here is a list of available software (July 20, 1985). Please notice that charge column refers to the single program, but it is also valid for any other program up to the disk capacity.

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*          *          *          *          *          *
* COMPUTER * SOFTWARE * KIND * STORAGE * CHARGE *
*          *          *          *          *          *
*****
*          *          *          *          *          *
* C-64     * ITACAT   * P/F  * C/D    * 12,000 *
*          *          *          *          *          *
* C-64     * ITACAT N * P/F  * C/D    * 12,000 *
*          *          *          *          *          *
* C-64     * TRACAT   * P/F  * C/D    * 12,000 *
*          *          *          *          *          *
* C-64     * Database for UFO sightings * P/F  * C/D    * 12,000 *
*          * used by CUN for local casuistry*          *          *
*          *          *          *          *          *
* C-64     * Database for trace cases   * P    * C/D    * 12,000 *
*          *          *          *          *          *
* C-64     * Address-book for UFO group * P    * C/D    * 12,000 *
*          *          *          *          *          *
* C-64     * Perpetual calendar         * P    * C/D    * 12,000 *
*          *          *          *          *          *
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UFO Software

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*      *      *      *      *      *
* COMPUTER * SOFTWARE * KIND * STORAGE * CHARGE *
*      *      *      *      *      *
*****
*      *      *      *      *      *
* C-64   * TASCAT ( Tasmanian Catalogue * P/F * D * 12,000 *
*      *   * of UFO sightings )      *      *      *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* C-64   * Package for astronomy amateurs * P * C/D * 12,000 *
*      *   * ( in Italian )          *      *      *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* C-64   * Notes on TUFOIC, TASCAT and its * F * C/D * 12,000 *
*      *   * brief statistical tables ( to *      *      *
*      *   * loaded via "Word-Writer" w.p. *      *      *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* C-64   * Post-1977 cases and notes from * F * C/D * 12,000 *
*      *   * ITACAT manuscript ( in Italian,*      *      *
*      *   * about 150 pages ), including a *      *      *
*      *   * bibliography on international *      *      *
*      *   * works on Type-1 events. To be *      *      *
*      *   * loaded via "Easy Script" w.p. *      *      *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* Apple IIc * Database for UFO reference * P/F * D * 14,000 *
*      *   * library, linked with books *      *      *
*      *   * owners' mail list ( file about *      *      *
*      *   * reference library of nine *      *      *
*      *   * Italian researchers and groups *      *      *
*      *   * is now available )          *      *      *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* Apple IIc * Database for general UFO * P/F * D * 14,000 *
*      *   * sightings, improved version of *      *      *
*      *   * the C-64 one. Used by C.U.N. *      *      *
*      *   * for storage of local casuistry.*      *      *
*      *   * Files about cases of five *      *      *
*      *   * Italian province are available *      *      *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* Apple IIc * ITACAT * P/F * D * 14,000 *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* Apple IIc * ITACAT N * P/F * D * 14,000 *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* Apple IIc * TRACAT * P/F * D * 14,000 *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* IBM/34   * Catalogue of Argentinian Type-1 * P/F * D * 16,000 *
*      *   * events, with alleged codebook *      *      *
*      *   * and statistical tables *      *      *
*      *   * ( 1981 version ) *      *      *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* IBM/36   * ARGENCAT ( Catalogue of * P/F * D * 16,000 *
*      *   * Argentinian Type-1 events, *      *      *
*      *   * 1985 version ) *      *      *
*      *      *      *      *      *
* IBM/36   * ARGENCAT statistical graphs * P/F * D * 16,000 *
*      *   * and tables *      *      *
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UFO Software

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*               *               *               *               *
* COMPUTER      * SOFTWARE      * KIND      * STORAGE * CHARGE      *
*               *               *               *               *
*****
*               *               *               *               *
* TI 990/I      * Database for UFO sightings. * P/F      *      D      * 16,000      *
*               * Available files : Italian   *         *         *             *
*               * casuistry of the 80's and   *         *         *             *
*               * 1906 - 1953                 *         *         *             *
*               *                             *         *         *             *
* TI 990/I      * Statistical analysis of Italian * P/F      *      D      * 16,000      *
*               * casuistry of the 80's         *         *         *             *
*               *                             *         *         *             *
*****

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As regards software, full credit will be always given for authors or other original sources : there are two Kinds, program (P) and file (F). Storage is possible on cassette (C) or disk (D) : please notice IBM and T.I. use 8 inches floppy disks, the others the 5.25 inches kind. Charges are reported in Italian lire : payment should be made through an International Postal Money Order.

IF YOU HAVEN'T A PRINTER . . .

.....we offer also print-out version (especially list of cases) of some UFO programs. Prices represent reproduction and shipping costs.

- (1) Catalogue of Argentinian Type-1 events, including codebook and statistical analyses (1981 version). 36 print out pages. 11,000 lire (6 US\$).
- (2) ARGENCAT (1985 version), including codebook and South American mail list. 86 print out pages. 16,000 lire (9 US\$).
- (3) ARGENCAT grahps and tables. 32 print-out pages. Only two copies avaiable at moment. 10,000 lire (5.5 US\$).
- (3) TASCAT, Tasmian Catalogue of UFO sightings. 8 xeroxed pages. 1500 lire.
- (4) ITACAT + ITACAT N + TRACAT. 15 xeroxed pages. 3000 lire. Sorted lists are avaiable on request.

- NEWS -

Marco Bottaini owns a Apple IIc : he is looking for people able to exchange software of any kind with him. If interested, please write to : Marco Bottaini via Mammianese 2/A 51017 Pescia (Pt) ITALY

Computer Census

NEWS

All readers are invited to supply a copy of UFO-related programs they have together with a brief description of such a software. Any kind of program and/or file (apart from its own quality and value) will be welcome.

We take the occasion to remember to all contributors owning a computer to supply us their papers (besides as a written text) under the form of a file on a floppy disc/cassette. Please remember it doesn't matter the kind of machine employed.

THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE
SENT FREE OF CHARGE.
DON'T FORGET !

Computer & Ufologists A Preliminary Census

Knowledge of people currently using a computer could be useful to know how many researchers have the same kind of home/personal.

By this way one could recommend the purchase of the most common model to all people planning to buy a computer. In fact, one of CUFON aims is to reach a number as high as possible of machine of the same kind, in order to make exchange of data without any difficulty.

The following schedule is drawn from present CUFON mail list : it is still incomplete, as we haven't received all answers to the questionnaire inserted in the experimental issue. Moreover, our knowledge about the great US scene is fairly limited. American researchers owning a computer are really a lot and we need their addresses, with alleged information about their own machines.

The list will be up-to-dated in the next issues of the newsletter, according to the information we'll receive.

Entries have been ordered by kind of computer : complete addresses are available on request.

Eventual additions and corrections will be welcome.

In a next issue we'll present an in-depth census of computers, alleged peripherals and software at ufologists' disposal.

Computer Census

UFOLOGISTS & COMPUTERS

Name	Country	Computer
Dominique Caudron	FRANCE	??
John Harney	ENGLAND	??
Jose' Baena Liberato	SPAIN	??
Guillermo Roncoroni	ARGENTINA	??
Bertil Kuhleman	SWEDEN	??
Per Andersen	DENMARK	various
GianPaolo Grassino	ITALY	Apple II
Roberto Farabone	ITALY	Apple II
Renzo Cabassi	ITALY	Apple II
Ronny Blomme	BELGIUM	Apple II
Marco Bottaini	ITALY	Apple IIc
Paolo Toselli	ITALY	Apple IIc
Massimo Greco	ITALY	Apple IIc/C-64
Andrew Cole	AUSTRALIA	AM-100 ?
Gerald Mosbleck	WEST GERMANY	C-64
Christian Petit	LUXEMBOURG	C-64
Pascal Deboodt	BELGIUM	C-64
Ringsaker UFO Forening	NORWAY	C-64
Henry Kampherbeek	HOLLAND	C-64
Antonio Sorlini	ITALY	C-64
Sergio Bianchi	ITALY	C-64
Maurizio Verga	ITALY	C-64
Piergiovanni D'Orazio	ITALY	C-64
Gianfranco Lollino	ITALY	C-64
Raymond A. Keller	U.S.A.	C-64
Roger Herres	U.S.A.	C-64
Paul Jackson	AUSTRALIA	C-64
Mike Hough	AUSTRALIA	C-64
Yves Chosson	FRANCE	Canon X-07
Jochen Ickinger	WEST GERMANY	CPC-464
Denys Breysse	FRANCE	CPC-464
Felix Ares de Blas	SPAIN	Dragon 32
Adolf Schneider	WEST GERMANY	Genie III
Willy Smith	U.S.A.	IBM-PC
Michael Hart	U.S.A.	IBM-PC
Bob Rickard	ENGLAND	IBM-PC
Anders Liljegren	SWEDEN	IBM-PC
Luis R. Gonzalez	SPAIN	M-20
Julio Arcas Gilardi	SPAIN	Spectrum
Edoardo Russo	ITALY	TI-990/I
Paul Sowiak-Rudej	NEW GUINEA	TRS-80

The second issue of "The Computer UFO Newsletter" will be probably released around October 1985.

To all readers

QUESTIONNAIRE

- (1) Do you have a computer ?
- (2) What is its exact model ?
- (3) Have you any of the following devices ?
DISK DRIVE - PRINTER - CASSETTE RECORDER - (color) MONITOR - MODEM
LIGHT PEN - EPROM PROGRAMMER - Others (.....?)
- (4) Have you access to a computer (a mainframe, too) ? Please give details.
- (5) How many programs have you for your own micro/personal computer ?
Please enclose a listing if possible.
Have you any word-processing or database program ?
- (6) Have you carried out any work about ufology ?
(catalogues of cases, books, magazines; mail lists; statistical analyses; etc.....)
- (7) Do you know other researchers / groups from any country having a computer or able to use it ?
Please supply names and addresses.

Name

Address

Please send to :

Maurizio Verga
via Matteotti 85
I-22072 Cermenate (Como)
ITALY